I'll teach them to prevent wild Alcibiades' wrath.

2 *SEN.* I like this well, he will return again.

TIM. I have a tree[5], which grows here in my close,
That mine own use invites me to cut down, And shortly must I fell it; Tell my friends, Tell Athens, in the sequence of degree [6], From high to low throughout, that whoso please To stop affliction, let him take his haste, Come hither, ere my tree hath felt the axe, And hang himself: —I pray you, do my greeting.

*FLAV** Trouble him no further, thus you still shall find him.

TIM. Come not to me again: but say to Athens, Timon hath made his everlasting mansion Upon the beached verge of the salt flood ; Whom once a day[7] with his embossed froth [8]

these words, independent of the supplemental—do iliem> which only serves to derange the metre, and is, I think, a certain interpolation. STEEVENS.

$ I have a tree, &c.] Perhaps Shakspeare was indebted to Chaucer's Wife of Bath's Prologue,, for this thought. He might, however, have found it in Painter's Palace of Pleasure, torn. i. Nov. 28, as well as in several other places. STEEVENS.

Our author was indebted for this thought to Plutarch's Life of Antony: *tc* It is reported of him also, that this Timon on a time, (the people being assembled in the market-place about dispatch of some affaires,) got up into the pulpit for orations, where the orators commonly use to speake unto the people; and silence being made, everie man listeneth to hear what he would say, because it was a wonder to see him in that place., at length he began to speak in this manner: c My lordes of Athens, f have a little yard in my house where there groweth a figge tree, on the which many citizens have hanged themselves; and because I meane to make some building upon the place, I thought good to let you all understand it, that before the figge tree be cut downe, if any of you be desperate, you may there in time go hang yourselves." MA.LONE.

6 — in the sequence of degree,] Methodically, from highest to lowest. JOHNSON.

7 WHOM once, a day —] Old copy—Who. For the correc-